



## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC22-18-000]

#### Commission Information Collection Activity (FERC-715); Comment Request; Extension

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collections, FERC-715 (Annual Transmission Planning and Evaluation Report).

**DATES:** Comments on the collections of information are due [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit your comments (identified by Docket No. IC22-18-000) on FERC-715 by one of the following methods:

Electronic filing through <http://www.ferc.gov> is preferred.

- Electronic Filing: Documents must be filed in acceptable native applications and print-to-PDF, but not in scanned or picture format.
- For those unable to file electronically, comments may be filed by USPS mail or by hand (including courier) delivery:
  - Mail via U.S. Postal Service Only: Addressed to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426.

- Hand (including courier) delivery: Deliver to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852.

*Instructions:* All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: <http://www.ferc.gov>. For user assistance, contact FERC Online Support by e-mail at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or by phone at (866) 208-3676 (toll-free).

*Docket:* Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at <http://www.ferc.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ellen Brown may be reached by e-mail at [DataClearance@FERC.gov](mailto:DataClearance@FERC.gov), or by telephone at (202) 502-8663.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* FERC-715, Annual Transmission Planning and Evaluation Report

*OMB Control No.:* 1902-0171

*Abstract:* Acting under section 213 of the Federal Power Act<sup>1</sup> and 18 CFR 141.300, FERC requires each transmitting utility that operates integrated transmission system facilities rated above 100 kilovolts (kV) to submit annually:

- Contact information;
- Base case power flow data (if the respondent does not participate in the development and use of regional power flow data);
- Transmission system maps and diagrams used by the respondent for transmission planning;

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<sup>1</sup> 16 USC 824/

- A detailed description of the transmission planning reliability criteria used to evaluate system performance for time frames and planning horizons used in regional and corporate planning;
- A detailed description of the respondent's transmission planning assessment practices (including, but not limited to, how reliability criteria are applied and the steps taken in performing transmission planning studies); and
- A detailed evaluation of the respondent's anticipated system performance as measured against its stated reliability criteria using its stated assessment practices.

FERC-715 enables the Commission to use the information as part of their regulatory oversight functions which includes:

- The review of rates and charges;
- The disposition of jurisdictional facilities;
- The consolidation and mergers;
- The adequacy of supply and;
- Reliability of the nation's transmission grid.

FERC-715 also helps the Commission resolve transmission disputes. Additionally, the Office of Electric Reliability (OER) uses the FERC-715 data to help protect and improve the reliability and security of the nation's bulk power system. OER oversees the development and review of mandatory reliability and security standards and ensures compliance with the approved standards by the users, owners, and operators of the bulk power system. OER also monitors and addresses issues concerning the nation's bulk power system including assessments of resource adequacy and reliability.

Without the FERC-715 data, the Commission would be unable to evaluate planned projects or requests related to transmission.

*Type of Respondent:* Integrated transmission system facilities rated at or above 100 kilovolts (kV).

*Estimate of Annual Burden<sup>2</sup>:* The Commission estimates the total annual burden and cost<sup>3</sup> for this information collection as follows.

<b>FERC-715, Annual Transmission Planning and Evaluation Report</b>						
<b>Type of Response</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (1)</b>	<b>Annual Number of Responses per Respondent (2)</b>	<b>Total Number of Responses (1)*(2)=(3)</b>	<b>Average Burden &amp; Cost Per Response (4)</b>	<b>Total Annual Burden Hours &amp; Total Annual Cost (3)*(4)=(5)</b>	<b>Cost per Respondent (\$) (5)÷(1)</b>
Annual Transmission Planning and Evaluation Report	111	1	111	160 hrs.; \$13,920	17,760 hrs.; \$1,545,120	\$13,920

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<sup>2</sup> “Burden” is the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. For further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, refer to Title 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

<sup>3</sup> The Commission staff estimates that the industry’s hourly cost for wages plus benefits is similar to the Commission’s \$87.00 FY 2021 average hourly cost for wages and benefits.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: June 22, 2022.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

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